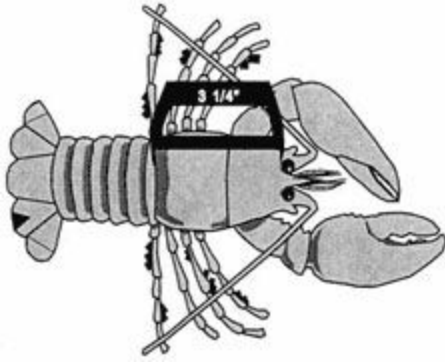


Lobster & Crab Commercial Regulations Table

Species	Closed Season	LCMA	Min Size	Max Size	V-Notch Poss.	Poss. Limit
Other Edible Crabs	Jan 1 - Apr 30	All	--	--	--	--
Blue Crabs (1)	Jan 1 - Apr 30	All	5"	--	--	25 crabs/day
Cancer Crabs (2)	Jan 1 - Apr 30	All	4 3/4"	--	--	No Limit for Lobster Trap Fishermen 1,000 crabs per trip for non-trap fishermen
Lobsters (3) *	--	1	3 1/4"	5"	zero tolerance	--
		2	3 3/8"	5 1/4"	1/8"	--
		3	3 17/32"	6 3/4"	1/8"	--
		OCC	3 3/8"	-- **	1/4" **	--



Measuring A Lobster

* Lobstermen permitted to fish in more than one LCMA must adhere to the most restrictive standards pertaining to minimum size, maximum size and v-notch possession standards of their permitted LCMA's.

** Federal permit holders must abide by the more restrictive federal rules of a 6 3/4 inch max gauge size and 1/8 inch with or w/out setal hairs v-notch definition.

1) Blue Crabs are measured across the shell from tip to tip of the posterior-most, longest spines along the lateral margins of the carapace. Any egg bearing crab or female crab with an egg mass or pouch must be returned to the water.

2) Cancer crabs refer to both the rock crab and Jonah crab species. The closed season applies to state waters only. The crabs are measured by carapace width. Egg bearing females must be returned to the water. Bycatch by net fishermen may not exceed the 1,000 crab limit, nor may it exceed 50% of the total catch by weight of all fish retained during the trip. Net fishermen are reminded that in order to possess and land cancer crabs in Massachusetts, they must hold a commercial lobster permit.

3) Carapace length measured from rear of eye socket parallel to the center line of the bodyshell to the rear of the bodyshell. All lobsters measuring less than the minimum legal carapace length must be returned to the waters from which taken. All lobsters must be measured immediately. Egg bearing females must be returned to the water.